ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

To shorten time required to transmit image data from an image server to a client computer.

To shorten, when image data is transmitted from a client computer to a main image server, time required to transmit the image data.

In a system in which an editing server and a lot of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an edited image can be generated by the plurality of client computers.

When image data is transmitted from the image server to the client computer, the resolution of image data to be transmitted is reduced in correspondence with the resolution of a monitor display device connected to the client computer. Further, the number of colors of an image represented by the image data is decreased in correspondence with the number of colors which can be displayed on the monitor display device. The data quantity of the image data to be transmitted is reduced, so that time required to transmit the image data is shortened.

A client computer and a main image server are connected to each other. A user image to be synthesized on a template image is read in the client computer. Image data representing the template image used for the image synthesis and image data representing a mask image are transmitted

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from the main image server to the client computer. In the

client computer, image synthesis processing is performed.

Image data representing an area required for image synthesis

of the user image used for the image synthesis is extracted.

5   The extracted user image data and synthesis information

required for the synthesis are transmitted from the client

computer to the main image server. In the main image

server, a composite image is printed.

   A lot of client computers and an editing server are

10   connected to one another via an internet. A group is

constituted by the plurality of client computers. In the

group, one of the client computers generates an edited

image, and the other client computer reedits the generated

edited image. The process of the editing can be also

15   confirmed on a display screen by the client computer which

does not relate to the editing.